

**Karuk Tribe – Health Board Meeting  
September 12, 2024 – Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting called to order at 10am by Chairman Attebery.**

**Present:**

Russell “Buster” Attebery, Chairman  
Kenneth “Binx” Brink, Vice-Chairman  
Scott Quinn, Secretary/Treasurer  
Jennifer Goodwin, Member at Large  
Kristen King, Member at Large  
Eli Hensher-Aubrey, Member at Large  
Arron “Troy” Hockaday, Member at Large

**Absent:**

Arch Super, Member at Large

Council Member Hockaday provided a prayer for the audience and Chairman Attebery read the Health Mission Statement.

**Agenda:**

Jennifer Goodwin moved and Scott Quinn seconded to approve the agenda with changes, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

**Consent Calendar:**

Binx asked about the generator. The procurement was completed and will be on hand should it be needed and then remain owned by the Tribe.

Scott Quinn moved and Binx Brink seconded to approve the consent calendar, 5 haa, 0 puuhara, 1 pupitihara (Troy).

**Council Caucus:** No minutes recorded.

**Meeting minutes of August 8, 2024:**

Buster asked Ray about some follow up on concepts of the Yurok Tribe regarding a woman’s facility. This is still under review. Ray updated that there is a meeting next Monday with the Yurok Tribe and will seek information on infrastructure and funding.

There was no update on Troy finding fentanyl funding from the State as he previously indicated he would seek.

Jennifer addressed some items in the minutes. There are folks wondering about remote work and she announced that the Council will be holding a meeting to discuss this topic, for the Tribe to make a final decision.

Binx Brink moved and Troy Hockaday seconded to approve the meeting minutes of August 8, 2024, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

**Guests:**

- 1) **Shaye Borque, DNR:**

Shay is present to seek approval of a letter of support for Courtney Shultz. She works at Colorado State University for a study equity and indirect impacts in post-fire. A new project will include a social science from Colorado and pay for interviews. Troy thinks this will be awesome but he would like to include Happy Camp Elementary School and High School, because this is traumatic for the youth as much as the adults.

Scott asked if this is an undergraduate or graduate program. She is a PhD already but she will work with other grad students on this.

Eli Hensher-Aubrey moved and Troy Hockaday seconded to approve the letter of support for Dr. Courtney Schultz's study equity and indirect impacts in post-fire recovery, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

### **Director Reports:**

#### **1) Ray Elliott, Director of Human Services:**

Ray is present in Yreka to review his report. The international overdose awareness day had a great turn out. He had a great time at the tribal reunion. This has been a big summer in working with the youth and outreach.

Narcan outreach including working with school groups on education is important. The men's transitional house has been being finished up and he will provide pictures.

Buster asked Ray about managing a behavioral health wait list. Ray commented that there is close to 50 people on the wait list. They will be working on bringing in groups to assist in providing services. He hopes to launch more groups by November.

Binx Brink moved and Scott Quinn seconded to approve Ray's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

#### **2) Merris Obie, Children & Family Administrator:**

Merris is present to review her report. She noted that all grants are under compliance at this time. Tribal approved homes is complete and all reports are submitted timely. There were some minor issues with Title IVB was submitted and an award letter should be received soon.

ICWA is on target and they will see how they do at the end of the month in spending. They have teamed up with Tribal Court, Tribal Education, etc.

Staff training is ongoing, CILS work is happening, and CTFC is collaborating as well. The Yreka space is very nice, but they have already outgrown it. They would like to obtain some space that is court ordered such as parenting classes, etc.

She is hoping to have agreement 24-A-147 approved which will be used for storage.

Binx Brink moved and Troy Hockaday seconded to approve agreement 24-A-147, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Troy asked if there is going to be a letter of support for HR9076 which is support for strengthening. Troy would like this support provided. Merris asked that this be forwarded to her for input.

Binx Brink moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to approve Merris's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

**3) Cecelli Gonzalez, PHN:**

Cecelli is present in Yreka to review her report. She noted that the CHR numbers are low but they continue to do their work. She did COVID19 outreach in all three communities. Orleans had a diabetic luncheon but they delivered meals because there was a fire. She attended the SDPI special diabetes conference in New Mexico and received great ideas on expanding the program. She would like a disc golf course in OR and HC. Troy updated that there is one in HC already. She would like to also host a diabetic conference in HC and she would like it open to all and focus on traditional aspects of healing. She would like to know what the process is to get fish, because she would like to serve it. Binx noted that there is enough fish for the diabetic luncheon already. Binx did offer to go fishing for the diabetic program. She will provide information on that conference as it gets closer. Binx advised that Cecelli needs to consider deer meat and acorns as well.

Troy Hockaday moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to approve Cecilli's report, 5 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara (Binx chairing).

**4) Nikki Hokanson, Deputy Dental Director:**

Nikki is present in HC to provide the dental report. The pano machine is up but is having some issues, it will be fixed shortly. The pano machine is an excellent piece of equipment and will provide service to the river corridor.

Nikki commented that they gave out toothpaste, floss, and too flossers. Kid and adult Sonicare's were given out as well at the reunion.

Susan Beatty is attending training which will benefit her position.

Binx Brink moved and Scott Quinn seconded to approve the dental department report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

**5) Tonia Begrin, Orleans Clinic Manager:**

Due to technical issues, she was unable to attend.

Binx Brink moved and Troy Hockaday seconded to approve Tonia's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Tonia popped on the screen. She noted that AAAHC review has happened. Well child physicals are underway.

**6) Rondi Johnson, HHS CEO:**

Rondi is present to review her report. She noted that the month of August there were several surveys; AAAHC, HRSA and Budget Meetings. Merris has done excellent in her due diligence in getting grants under control.

Binx Brink moved and Kristen King seconded to approve HHS CEO report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

**7) Susanna Greeno, HC Clinic Manager:**

Susanna is present to review her report. She updated that AAAHC review occurred. There are still some vacancies at the Happy Camp Clinic. There is a new training for enrolling children through Medical that she took, as well as insurance for pregnant women. This is new to the front desk duties. The MA's are shuffled quite a bit.

Employee evaluations and job description updates are happening. Policy for paper charts needs finalized. ACQI is going to have new forms provided which will assist.

Flu shots are in and she did ask Cecelli to reach out to Siskiyou County Public Health to see if they want to partner on a flu clinic, because it's been a few years.

Happy Camp has childcare issues as well as the HCES shut down with staff out sick. The PA will be onsite until the middle of November.

Buster asked if there are plans for the HC locum to depart. Rondi commented that yes, posting and recruiting.

EHR is new and coming soon. She thought she was going to relax after the clinic move and inspections, and then the HHS program will move to a new EHR system. Susanna hopes for good training before it rolls out. HRSA's website is for students and they have a job fair quarterly. Susanna noted that there are vacancies for PA's and FNP's.

Binx Brink moved and Scott Quinn seconded to approve Susanna's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

**8) Tonya Albers, RPMS Site Manager:**

Tonya is not present, report provided. All numbers are down from last year.

Binx Brink moved and Eli Hensher-Aubrey seconded to approve Tonya's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

**9) Cindy Hayes, YR Clinic Manager:**

Cindy is present in Yreka to review their report.

Troy Hockaday moved and Binx Brink seconded to approve Cindy's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Troy commented that that Cindy provided visit counts and asked that she break that further out to include Native American elders and non-Native elders.

**10) Dr. Vasquez, Medical Director:**

Not present, report provided. Troy suggested to have a retirement party for Dr. Vasquez. His notation of skeleton staff, short staffed, and staff stress should be discussed in closed session.

Troy Hockaday moved and Binx Brink seconded to approve Dr. Vasquez's report, 5 haa, 0 puuhara, 1 pupitihara (Eli Hensher-Aubrey).

**11) Jodi Henderson, Operations Manager:**

Jodi is present to review her report. The FTCA has been completed and they are completing the AAAHC review follow up. Scott asked Jodi to provide him with the HRSA guidelines on services and those requirements.

Troy Hockaday moved and Eli Hensher-Aubrey seconded to approve Jodi's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

**Closed Session:**

Troy Hockaday moved and Eli Hensher-Aubrey seconded to uphold the PRC denial and pay for 3 months at \$900 and bring back if needed for PRC #376, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Consensus: to follow policy and put the person on the debt list for PRC #375.

Informational: HHS CEO provided the Indian Health Services priorities and asked for input. For other: she will insert Self-Governance.

Binx Brink moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to approve the Budget Formulation FY27 for Indian Health Services, 5 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara (Troy absent for vote).

Binx Brink moved and Scott Quinn seconded to approve out of state travel for Danci Harris October 25-27, 2024, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Kristen King moved and Binx Brink seconded to approve HHS CEO Black Color scheme for the HHS Admin building, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Informational: Operations provided report to Health Board on incidents, complaints and follow up regarding communication on those.

Eli Hensher-Aubrey moved and Scott Quinn seconded to approve HHS policies with changes, 5 haa, 0 puuhara, 1 pupitihara (Troy).

Informational: Chairman Attebery requested that items be put in timely. There are several instances when policies are coming in last minute or late. This doesn't allow Council time to review.

Binx Brink moved and Jennifer Goodwin to deny trailer for Tribal Member #AS, 5 haa, 0 puuhara, 1 pupitihara (Troy).

Informational: Karuk Tribe will begin to assess the ability of an auction.

Informational: Request from Tribal employee #MC will be referred back to Supervisors to provide recommendation to the Tribal Council.

Informational: Tribal Member CM is present to discuss his dissatisfaction of the TERO process. He believes that there are time sensitive issues embedded in his complaint and he has not received a timely response from the TERO Director. TERO advises that he is responding and is evaluating what information he submits but he is not timely in submitting documents. The information should be forthcoming to allow for processes to be followed. Matter referred to follow process.

Binx Brink moved and Eli Hensher-Aubrey seconded to approve modification (1) to contract 24-C-115, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Binx Brink moved and Eli Hensher-Aubrey seconded to rescind the approval on color scheme for the HC Medical Admin and refer to construction group to present options, 5 haa, 0 puuhara, 1 pupitihara (Scott).

Consensus: to deny participation in the Center for Indian Country Development.

Informational: Rockefeller investment services would like to have a follow up call with the Tribal Council.

Troy Hockaday moved and Scott Quinn seconded to approve out of state of travel for Alma Paz to Tulaip WA 9/16 (Check to see if this comes from discretionary), 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Informational: A meeting shall be set with Erin, Tamara and Laura Mayton regarding the roll out of new software and recommendations.

Troy Hockaday moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to approve a \$1 per hour COLA for FY25, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Jennifer Goodwin moved and Scott Quinn seconded to approve KTHA BOC recommendation to seat Charlene Naef to the KTHA BOC, 4 haa, 2 puuhara (Troy/ Kristen), 0 pupitihara.

Binx Brink moved and Kristen King seconded to purchase small sign + gym add which is \$500 at the Yreka High School, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara. Ask RRC for money.

Binx Brink moved and Scott Quinn seconded to allow \$300 per month payments to pay back to the Tribe for insurance premiums for employee #TG, 4 haa, 0 puuhara, 1 pupitihara (Troy). (Jennifer absent for vote).

Scott Quinn moved and Binx brink seconded to approve the USA Today add with change, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Scott Quinn moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to allow IT to access to employee DS email and appropriate person to have full access after Monday, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Troy Hockaday moved and Kristen King seconded to approve support of HR 9076, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Informational: Discussion on the Allen Ranch steps and ensuring MOU's are in place for Parcel B Lands as well as other lands.

Consensus: for Neva to send the letter regarding Big Springs.

**Next Meeting:** October 10, 2024 at 10am in Happy Camp.

Binx Brink moved and Kristen King seconded to adjourn at 5:01pm.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

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**Russell Attebery, Chairman**

**Recording Secretary, Barbara Snider**

